Cyberthon promises to be an amazing experience (see listings above of presenters and speakers). It will be new, different, exciting, an event that will have its own evolution as the interaction of the people there develops with each hour. As sbb said, there is a schedule (and a brimming one at that), but there is not a script. That is because Cyberthon is about bringing creators and potential users of a new technology together to see what happens, what collaborations follow, what ideas are sparked. The other agenda is to promote discussion on the direction of virtual reality technology--socially and culturally, what *should* happen with this new and powerful tool. How can it be made human, made accessible to people in their everyday lives. Too long-range? How can early adopters of the technology use it to benefit others--through entertainment, through medicine, through education? Those are Whole Earth Institute's objectives in presenting Cyberthon.

The people responsible for planning this event are doing a fantastic job pulling together a diverse collection of people and gear, getting the excited support of dozens of experts in the field, and that of many willing volunteers. What Cyberthon will deliver is the opportunity to be in a place where something powerful and positive is definitely *happening*; where creative juices are flowing, where connections are being made. People can choose to be there or not, to contribute positive personal energy to the mix, or not.

Whole Earth Institute will not make money on this. Bringing this many people together, feeding them well, providing security, handling all the logistics takes a lot of time and costs a lot of money, and the attendance fee for this is definitely way below market. If we had to pay for this and everyone's donated time, rather than their doing it out of their own enthusiasm, the cost per person would be 3 to 6 times as much. Also, this is a huge opportunity for Point Foundation, parent of WEI, to get press coverage, but we are severely limiting press presence, in deference to the quality experience we want to deliver to the attendees.

Cyberthon will stimulate and amaze, it will connect and educate, and it will promote very necessary discussion about the direction of this technology. That's what we're out to do.

--Kelly ~~Tocken, Executive~~ (Director, Point Foundation)